

Ag Video Conference Notes
March 19, 2008
9 a.m.

Present: Tom McCarthy, Gene Tinker, Eric Wiklund, Cindy Martens, Dan Olson, Josh Sobaski, Ted Petersen, Bob Palla, Claire Hruby and Randy Clark

The next Ag Video Conference will be on April 16th at 9 a.m. Please mark your calendars and send topics to Cindy Martens.

Update on Manure Application to Soybean Rule- Commission adopted this rule and added a sentence that it would be required to do research before the ban is effective in 5 years. They will publish notice in the bulletin this week it will go to rules review committee next month or possibly in May. It becomes effective on May 12th if it passes. It could be delayed 90 days or until the end of the legislative session. It is noted that FB and producer groups are against this rule.

MAC Bill- Randy noted that it had cleared the Senate Committee and it was on the calendar for the House and was stalled. They will work to get it through the next funnel on the 28th of March.

NPDES Bill-this is to get IA laws in line with the Clean Water Act. The bill passed the Senate and now goes back to the House.

Stockpiling from Confinements Bill-It is on the calendar for both chambers. EPA is prepared to oppose this legislation.

Indemnity Fee and Filing Fee Forms-Are now updated and on the website. These were changed to accommodate the transfer of ownership of existing facilities, especially those over 1,000 au's that don't need permitting due to old rules. Please toss your old copies and make new ones for your office.

Appendix A8 Yields-Is also updated and on the web. Please toss old copies and make new ones for your office and personal files.

Open lots selling manure under 200A-There will be further discussion on this matter as some of the large CAFOs are using 200A for the NMP. There is no allowance in our rules for this and there is no guaranteed analysis of the diverse manure, but IDALS is apparently allowing it anyway.

Karst and hoop buildings-Karst and potential karst sites require a CDS, so Claire, Bob and Sara will be looking at these sites to address the location and construction. They need an engineering evaluation and will use the first page of the CDS. If anything is in karst they need 5 feet to bedrock or a 2-foot clay liner.

RUSLE2- For the soil profile, soil loss and ISU County averages, the NRCS FO technical guide should be used to get these numbers. Low disturbance can only be claimed if using specialized equipment that is labeled as such or if using an anhydrous sweep.

Referrals-There were more questions on who to name in the referral process. Randy said to name everyone that has an involvement and legal will sort this out. People such as site owner, manure generator, land owner, manure broker, etc.

Rebuilding of fire damaged site-Scenario was a chicken confinement built in 1971 and 1993. Two years ago the 1971 barn burned down. It is an unpermitted site. The barn is within 500 feet of a water source, but at the time of construction no separation distance was in effect. He can rebuild, but must meet the separation distance or use the PIG for secondary containment.

AFO Database-Claire reported that the database was funded and they are working on contracts. They hope to have a programmer hired by the beginning of June. Time frame is to have it done by October with months of migration and testing and a goal of March 2009 for implementation.

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Old MMPs- It was brought up about retention of old MMPs. The current retention law is that the original should be kept while active and then two years past. Once we have kept it this long, it can be sent to Des Moines to the records center for microfilming and then they go to the archives. It is possible to change the retention schedule if offices would like to. Are old MMPs of any use?? Please let Randy know your feelings.

Milk Waste-Reminder that milk waste must go to a total containment structure.

Clean up of old sites-Reminder that the law requires the owner of a facility to clean out a lagoon or basin. Watch these as there may be a lot of older sow operations closing in the next year or two. Canada has been gassing sows in the last few months and the Canadian government is buying out herds, so this will affect the finisher business in northern Iowa.

Federal CAFO Rule-Gene reported that EPA has added a supplemental notice to change the CAFO rule for a voluntary option for CAFOs to certify that they won't discharge. They would still need an NMP, but it could be kept on site and would not need to be submitted. The DNR will comment to EPA through Randy and Gene.

Submitted by Cindy Martens